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HOW TO CALL TIMES-DISPATCH.
Persons wishing to communicate with the Times-Dispatch should address their communications to "The Editor," and send them to the office, 306 E. Main Street, Richmond, Va.
When calling between 8 A. M. and 5 P. M., call on our office direct for Editor, composing room, or business office; and, for mailing and press room.

Wednesday, November 28, 1906.

He who is false to present duty breaks a thread in the loom, and will find a flaw when he may have forgotten the cause.—Beecher.

The Governor's Address.

Governor Swannock talked plain common sense last night to the members of the Education Conference. It was a speech from the heart as well as from the head, and ought to be an inspiration and a stimulus to all who heard it. At the outset he urged the voters to elect to the boards of supervisors and county commissioners men who have the cause of popular education at heart. "No county," said the Governor, "can ever be blessed with prosperous public schools so long as the schools are starved by the parsimony of hostile boards of supervisors." A true saying. The supervisors must be in thorough sympathy with the cause, or the schools will not prosper under their direction. The Governor also urged the necessity of having the right men for decision, superintendents and trustees. The superintendents should be competent, as well as willing, to superintend. They should be skilled directors and men of executive ability. As for the trustees, they should be men of discretion, who put the public interest above personal interest, who love the schools to run the public convenience, not their own convenience, who select teachers according to merit, and not to give some worthy, but incompetent, person a means of livelihood.

A Comparison.

All experts who have investigated municipal operation in Europe, so far as we have seen their reports, agree at least in this, that the attitude of the foreign municipalities towards public service corporations has had the effect to retard enterprise and development. So many restrictions are imposed that corporations are compelled to keep close to shore, and are restrained from making large outlays, with a view to future profit, because, in most cases, the property which they develop is taken over by the municipality after a term of years. One of the latest of these investigations is made by Mr. Hugo Meyer as to municipal ownership in Germany, and his report is made in the Journal of Political Economy for November. Mr. Meyer says that in all the more essential matters the experience of Germany with the two-fold policy of municipal ownership and severe restriction upon public service companies has been a repetition of the experience of Great Britain—the spirit of municipal ownership has made the public more intent upon imposing all kinds of restrictions upon the public service companies than upon the securing of services that shall be efficient, abundant and reasonable in price. He points out that although the electric railway was "born in Germany," it was forced by a liberal policy on the part of the government to "emigrate" to the United States, subsequently to return to the place of its birth, as an industry "ready-made."

The President and the Negro Troops.

The Times-Dispatch has more than once called attention to the fact that the negroes at the North try to make the impression that many of the outrages committed by negroes in the South are really committed by the whites in disguise and charged up against the blacks. An attempt has now been made to make the impression that the row at Brownsville, Texas, was the work of citizens of that town to discredit the negro soldiers. This row was further argued the people of that town, and in order that the public may understand the case thoroughly, a statement has been given out by Editor T. O. Wheeler, of the Brownsville Daily Herald.

Our electric railways have operated to decentralize the population in cities and build up the suburban districts.

In Germany, on the contrary, the fares are graded according to distance, as a consequence of which persons of small means have been compelled to reside within the city limits in order to take advantage of the cheaper rate of transportation. From every point of view the American plan is the best.

City Debts and Assets.
The Commercial and Financial Chronicle, of New York, under date of November 24, 1906, publishes a statement of the debts and resources of the States, cities and towns of the United States, which makes an interesting study. The exhibit for the principal Virginia cities is as follows:

City	Assessed valuation, real	Assessed valuation, personal	Total valuation	Population
Alexandria	\$84,800	\$24,200	\$109,000	11,000
Blacksburg	1,113,819	4,480,538	5,594,357	11,000
Charlottesville	3,354,348	1,113,819	4,468,167	11,000
Fredericksburg	1,113,819	4,480,538	5,594,357	11,000
Richmond	1,113,819	4,480,538	5,594,357	11,000
Salem	1,113,819	4,480,538	5,594,357	11,000
Staunton	1,113,819	4,480,538	5,594,357	11,000
Warrenton	1,113,819	4,480,538	5,594,357	11,000

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Visit from Sir Mortimer Durand

British Ambassador to the United States Will Be Guest of President Tucker.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

NORFOLK, Va., November 27.—Sir Mortimer Durand, British ambassador to the United States, will be in Norfolk to-morrow as the personal guest of Hon. Harry St. George Tucker, president of the Jamestown Exposition. He will be conducted over the Exposition grounds, and at the same time he will avail himself of the opportunity of securing comprehensive information as to the progress made on the exposition, its size and scope. In order that he might intelligently inform his government regarding it, England, it is expected, will have a greater naval and military display at the exposition than any other foreign government.

No public reception of any kind has been arranged for Sir Mortimer. No announcement whatever has been made here of his coming, and it is understood that he prefers that his visit here be a quiet one.

Telegrams were exchanged between the ambassador and Mr. Tucker to-day, and it was not decided positively until to-day that the ambassador would be here. He will arrive to-morrow morning aboard the steamer *Washington*, and it is expected that he will return in the evening by the same route. While it is not expected that the visit of the ambassador will partake of anything of a public nature, he will be entertained at dinner at the home of Mr. Tucker, and there will be a number of distinguished guests there to meet him. Among those invited are Captain W. Gordon McCabe and Mr. Joseph Bryan, of Richmond.

Case Continued.

The case of Thomas Johnson, colored, who is charged with wantonly shooting Mark Brown and James Brody last Tuesday night, appeared in Police Court yesterday morning. The case was continued until December 5th.

Brody died of his wounds on Thursday night, and Brown, who was not seriously hurt, recovered.

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"There's a Reason" FOR

POSTUM

For my part, I believe President Roosevelt would have acted likewise had a garrison of white soldiers committed a similar offense in a negro settlement. If the soldiers had succeeded in establishing